Beedi Workers in the Country

979. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of beedi workers in the country;

(b) the State-wise break-up of such figures;

(c) the number of beedi workers who have received identity cards all over the country;

(d) what steps are proposed to increase assistance to beedi workers in 2006-2007; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (c) A Statement is enclosed (See *below).*

(d) and (e) Efforts are being made by way of organizing awareness campaigns from time to time in beedi workers concentrated areas so as to make them aware to avail benefits of various welfare schemes. Schemes have been further simplified and rationalized in recent years.

Statement

State-wise Details of the total number of beedi workers and number of Identity cards issued to them

St. No.	Name of the State	Total No. of Beedi Workers Estimated	No. of Identity Cards issued
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7,35,000	7,15,711
2	Assam	7,725	6,335
3.	Bihar	3,35,000	1,72,429
4.	Jharkhand	1,15,000	64,433
5.	Gujarat	50,075	45,874
6.	Karnataka	2,87,082	2,76,706
7.	Kerala	96,324	79,208
8.	Madhya Pradesh	8,27,194	8,25,150
9.	Chattisgarh	26,110	20,481
10.	Maharashtra	2,56,000	2,17,663
11.	Orissa	2,65,000	1,89,008
12.	Rajasthan	31,736	31,736
13.	Tripura	9,946	6,349
14.	Tamil Nadu	6,25,000	6,05,079
15.	Uttar Pradesh	4,50,000	3,22,098
16.	West Bengal	7,52,225	7,42,050
	Total:	48,69,417	43,20,310